

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011  
CITY HALL  
22710 E. COUNTRY VISTA DRIVE  
7:00 P.M.**

**INVOCATION**

Given by Councilman Romney

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mayor Van Orman, City Council, and City Staff.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Mayor Van Orman announced the Partners Advancing Character Education (PACE) trait for June, which is "Integrity".

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

City Council Members:

Mayor Pro Tem Crump (absent)  
Council Member Kaminskas  
Council Member Langford  
Council Member Romney  
Council Member Schuler (absent)  
Council Member Beckett  
Council Member Owens (absent)

City Staff:

Ann Swenson, City Clerk  
Doug Smith, Community Development Director  
Sean Boutz, City Attorney  
Amanda Tainio, P&B Services Manager  
Brian Asmus, Chief of Police  
Amy Dickeson, Library Associate  
JoAnn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant  
Jeff Nelson, Crew Supervisor/Equipment  
Maintenance Technician  
Rosemary Marshall, Library Clerk  
Dan McDermott, Library Clerk  
Police Officer Taj Wilkerson

Council Member Langford moved to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Crump and Council Members Schuler and Owens, seconded by Council Member Kaminskas. Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Council Member Langford moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Beckett. Motion carried unanimously.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ron Ragge, 116 N. Lindeblad Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: spoke about the change of form of government and the discussion during last week's special meeting regarding the same. He reminded members of the council that he expects, within the next two weeks, to see a vote on the resolution to include a proposition on the ballot of whether the city should adopt the council/manager form of government. He commented he felt the last meeting was very unfair to the people who came, many of whom attended for this specific item. He said many of those people wished to speak who did not get the chance.

Bruce Gunn, 318 N. Hodges Road, Greenacres, WA: read the police blotter article from the Splash's May 25, 2011 publication about an LLPD officer observing a motorcycle on Henry Road driving recklessly near Sprague Avenue. Mr. Gunn said he and others were witnesses to this chase. He expressed being upset about this pursuit because there is a special needs student who lives across the street. He was concerned about the speed the officer was going and talked about the danger it posed. Mr. Gunn reported he obtained and reviewed the LLPD pursuit policies and he does not feel they were followed. He asked the council to spend at least 10-15 minutes researching data on high-speed pursuits for further information then address and review LLPD's policies.

Liberty Lake Chief of Police, Brian Asmus, then addressed the council regarding this situation. He said the department adopted a new policy approximately two years ago, which is consistent with the LEXIPOL policy, and is the same policy as enforced throughout Spokane County, noting pursuits typically cross into county and other jurisdiction's borders. He said the pursuit section of the policy is 11 pages, is restrictive, but allows officers to conduct their mission. Chief Asmus recognized and appreciated Mr. Gunn's comments, stating that officers are very aware of the potential dangers and even risk of death. He said the officers are also well trained in high-speed pursuit driving and how to operate vehicles at high speeds.

After no further citizen comments were received, Mayor Van Orman introduced Robin Toth, Vice President of Economic Development of Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI).

## PRESENTATION

Ms. Toth gave an overview of GSI's business development services, marketing Liberty Lake properties and providing outreach to Liberty Lake businesses for retention/expansion. She outlined 2011 recruitment activities such as targeted outreach, advertising, sales missions, leads by industry and location, and prospects for manufacturing, distributing, and technology. Ms. Toth also presented GSI's comprehensive economic development strategies and reported on local business activities.

## **FIVE-YEAR SERVICE RECOGNITIONS**

Mayor Van Orman then recognized and thanked city staff members who have dedicated five or more years of service to the City of Liberty Lake. Staff members who received five-year service pins were: Amy Dickeson, Library Associate, JoAnn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant, Jeff Nelson, Crew Supervisor/Equipment Maintenance Technician, Rosemary Marshall, Library Clerk, Dan McDermott, Library Clerk, and Police Officer, Taj Wilkerson.

## **WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS**

Invocation: Council Member Beckett recapped the previous invocation discussion for those members who were not present at the last meeting. He talked about establishing a process for those who wish to sign up to conduct an the invocation at a City Council meeting, keeping invocation more inclusive of what the current process is, allowing community members or religious leaders in the community to provide invocation, or selecting a moment of silence in lieu of an actual invocation.

Council members discussed the need to made a decision during their next scheduled council meeting on which way to proceed, the emotional ties to this topic and it not being the most pressing concern of the city, as well as the need to meet all people's needs within the community.

Update for Internal Audit – Canfield & Associates: Mayor Van Orman turned the floor over the City Attorney, Sean Boutz, who explained he met with a consultant from Canfield and Associates. The consultant is available in the next week to 10 days, and staff is in the process of working with him to schedule times to conduct the internal audit. Mayor Van Orman stated this will provide an opportunity for the city to review and update the current personnel policies. Council Member Kaminskis requested inviting former city employees to undergo the interview process as well to get additional feedback.

## **MAYOR / CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Finance Committee: Councilman Beckett provided a Finance Committee meeting update. The committee reviewed vouchers and discussed the posting timeline for open positions in the city.

Mayor Van Orman provided a Liberty Lake Youth Commission update. The Youth Commission met and decided to donate the proceeds raised from the All Fools Hunt event, totaling \$ 1,275 minus expenses, to Crosswalk. The group will be participating in the upcoming Liberty Lake Days event as well as working on a time capsule to commensurate the city's 10 year anniversary. Mayor Van Orman congratulated the soon-to-be 2011 high-school graduates, and spoke about the upcoming community yard sale. She reported about her attendance at a Solid Waste Management meeting and reminded council members to look over the e-mailed information. Last Friday, the pool

of officer candidates were narrowed down to the top five, the Mayor was able to choose the top three to have background checks completed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Council Member Beckett moved to approve Agenda Items 11a and 11b, seconded by Council Member Langford. Motion carried unanimously. Item 11a was approval of the City Council Minutes from May 17, 2011. Item 11b was approval of the vouchers for June 7, 2011 in the amount of \$383,494.42. Check sequences were: check number 14089 in the amount of \$134,802.00; check series 14108 through 14179, totaling \$56,381.05; and payroll series 14090 through 14107, totaling \$192,311.37.

Council Member Langford moved Action Item 11c for the purposes of discussion, seconded by Council Member Beckett. Item 11c was approval of the updated job description and salary schedule for a finance director.

Council members discussed making the following modifications to the job description:

- Under the reports to/supervision section of the description, replace "Mayor or his/her designee" with "Mayor or City Administrator".
- Under the Ability To section of the description, replace "Plane and organize work" with "Plan and organize work".
- Under the Preferred Criteria section of the description, replace "Master of Public Administration" with "Master of appropriate or related field"

Council Member Langford then moved to approve the amendments to the job description as outlined above, seconded by Council Member Kaminkas. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Van Orman then called for the motion for approval of the job description as amended and the salary schedule. Council Member Langford moved to approve the job description as amended and the salary schedule for the finance director, seconded by Council Member Kaminkas. Motion carried unanimously.

## **FIRST READ ORDINANCE**

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 194 into the record, an Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington Granting the Right of Franchise to Zayo Group, LLC and its Affiliates for the Operation of a Telecommunications System in the City of Liberty Lake.

## **UNFINISHED / NEW BUSINESS**

Council Member Romney reported he has had a lot of citizens talk to him about the Washington State Department of Transportation's freeway access project plans, particularly the plan for downtown Liberty Lake and how that will be affected by any

changes to the off ramps at I-90. He said he would like to have further discussion and review about the city's plan for the central downtown area. This will be placed on the next City Council agenda as a workshop item.

### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

Dorothy Sherette, 1214 N. Winchester, Liberty Lake, WA: said she has lived in Liberty Lake 11 years and this was her first attendance at a city council meeting. She reported she left a message on the Liberty Lake Police's on-call duty phone to report some vandalism in her neighborhood and never received a return call. She then went to the police station in person and said she was very disappointed with her interaction with the police officer she had spoken with. She emphatically said she will never again call the LLPD for anything.

Charmaine Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: requested clarification regarding the internal audit and the mayor's comment about having time to update the city's HR policies. Mayor Van Orman clarified her intent was not to update the policies prior to the audit, but upon completion thereof.

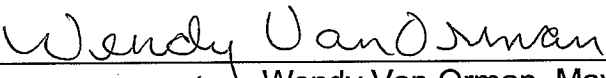
Bruce Gunn, 318 N. Hodges, Greenacres, WA: stated he felt it was unfortunate the suspect got away in the motorcycle pursuit mentioned earlier. He questioned whether the offense was truly serious enough to endanger other people and stated that the liability regarding this chase was enormous. He commented on the results of the city's recent website poll, noting the number one priority of the citizens was public safety. He again expressed his desire for council members to spend a few minutes researching high-speed pursuits.

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: commented he has spoken with people both in and around town who have said Liberty Lake is a very welcoming and interactive community. Mr. Peterson shared one of the comments he received from someone who just relocated to Liberty Lake from Seattle, who stated, "I can't believe how friendly the people are over here."

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No executive session took place. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

These minutes are approved on June 21, 2011.

  
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Wendy Van Orman, Mayor  
City of Liberty Lake

  
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*Notes and Transcription by Ann Swenson, City Clerk. This Council meeting was also audio taped. Anyone desiring to listen to the recording may contact the City Clerk.*